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"Kollektivhusboende i Tyresö"
"Collaborative Housing in Tyresö"

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Starting off with the needs and wishes of a group of individuals a collaborative housing, or co-housing, project is formed in a suburban setting in Tyresö. The project has been shaped through discussions, workshops and imagination of what a more collective way of living could look like.

The main concept is that every household has its own apartment, but through dispensing with a couple of square meters from the private home shared spaces can be added, still keeping the project affordable. The feeling of community is shaped through sharing the everyday with one another, for instance a shared meal is prepared every day for those who want to join.

A group of 10-15 people have taken part in the process, but the housing unit is planned for 28 households, i.e possibly 60 people, in order to get the project more economically viable.

Collaborative Housing in Tyresö
Anna Maria Berggren Eriksson | Design Process Studio | Supervisor: Anders Wilhelmson | Spring semester 2013

Hildi (61), rhythmic therapist, and Eduard (68), psychiatric aide
"In most residential districts people are quite shut off, not mixing their own business. We have always thought that it’s nice to know our neighbours, which is why we believe in co-housing.

Right now we live in a rowhouse with 120 square meters but we don’t use all that space, half of it would probably be enough. The shared spaces will be our main home.

We are a family with 3 children, and the shared spaces will be like a large flexible space where we can use the opportunity to move into a smaller apartment.

For us it would be a dream come true to take part in planning a place to live that is completely available to us. It wouldn’t need to be so difficult at all times; I would love to live in a co-house where I felt needed and could help out with things. I want to take part in the cooking as often as I can and I’d love to babysit if it’s needed since I love children. I also think it would be easier for Isabella to make friends in a co-house, if there are more children of her age there, despite her handicap."

Ginger, health worker and student
"I have lived in many different types of collaborative housing in Latin America and in Berlin. The idea of having a garden space near the house also seems more important for me. To me Sweden seems to be a bit more traditional when it comes to how you want to live, therefore it is interesting to take part in creating a different type of housing project like this. It is important to put forward alternatives on how we could live.

Rent is high these days so I could definitely imagine sharing a small apartment with a friend to save some money. But also I definitely imagine sharing a small apartment with a friend to save some money."

Kristina (36), Mika (41), Isabella (3)
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Alex (51), shiatsu massage therapist
"I imagine this large flexible space where you for example could organize workshops in different physical activities like cycling or yoga. And in the evening it might transform into a disco for the kids! I’d also like some smaller, quiet space for reading and relaxing."
To achieve the same share of revenue-generating floor area as in a regular housing unit the residents have to share the cost for the yellow portion. This means that 18% of the square meters you pay for are located in the shared spaces. By integrating circulation spaces and shared living spaces in an open plan the actual usable floor area at house/room level increases.
"I need one separate bedroom for me and one for my teenage daughter, even though she’s probably moving out in a couple of years... A big living room would be nice but my bedroom could be really small, I could almost sleep in a closet! I want to be able to get outside directly from my apartment, to the nature rather than to a shared outdoor space, so I want my apartment at the back of the house, with a balcony door and small stair leading down to the ground."

When the daughter moves out the hatched walls can be removed to expand the living room.

"We can’t afford a very large apartment but it would be nice to have my own room. I and my boyfriend are both quite handy so if it would save us money we wouldn’t mind moving into a half-built home and finish it ourselves."

The hatched walls as well as the loft bed are built by the residents themselves. The apartment can also be adjusted to suit two friends by extending the loft bed wall all the way to the ceiling.

Our dream apartment is large and spacious, there has to be space for two permobiles, one ordinary wheelchair and three assistants to move around freely. It would be good if it is placed near the entrance, and with a storing space for outdoor wheelchairs nearby. We would also love to live close to the shared spaces where everything is happening!"